



IFW Receipt

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Desmet, et al.
Appl. No. : 10/573,951
Filed : March 30, 2006
For : METHOD AND DEVICE FOR SIZE-
SEPARATING PARTICLES
PRESENT IN A FLUID
Examiner : Unknown

Group Art Unit 1724

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence and all marked attachments are being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first-class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on

January 8, 2007

(Date)

Che S. Chereskin

Che Swyden Chereskin, Ph.D., Reg. No. 41,466

REQUEST FOR CORRECTED FILING RECEIPT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Office of Initial Patent Examination
Customer Service Center
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Applicants hereby request that the Official Filing Receipt, a copy of which is enclosed, be corrected to reflect the true filing date of the priority European application. The correct date of filing is October 3, 2003 (10/03/2003). Presently, the Filing Receipt incorrectly shows the filing date as October 2, 2003 (10/02/2003). Documentation is provided to support the requested change.

Respectfully submitted,

KNOBBE, MARTENS, OLSON & BEAR, LLP

Dated:

Jan. 8, 2007

By:

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UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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APPL NO.	FILING OR 371 (c) DATE	ART UNIT	FIL FEE REC'D	ATTY. DOCKET NO	DRAWINGS	TOT CLMS	IND CLMS
10/573,951	03/30/2006	1724	775	DECLE69.005APC	7	33	2

CONFIRMATION NO. 1755

20995
KNOBBE MARTENS OLSON & BEAR LLP
2040 MAIN STREET
FOURTEENTH FLOOR
IRVINE, CA 92614

FILING RECEIPT



OC000000021158796

Date Mailed: 11/13/2006

Receipt is acknowledged of this regular Patent Application. It will be considered in its order and you will be notified as to the results of the examination. Be sure to provide the U.S. APPLICATION NUMBER, FILING DATE, NAME OF APPLICANT, and TITLE OF INVENTION when inquiring about this application. Fees transmitted by check or draft are subject to collection. Please verify the accuracy of the data presented on this receipt. If an error is noted on this Filing Receipt, please mail to the Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria Va 22313-1450. Please provide a copy of this Filing Receipt with the changes noted thereon. If you received a "Notice to File Missing Parts" for this application, please submit any corrections to this Filing Receipt with your reply to the Notice. When the USPTO processes the reply to the Notice, the USPTO will generate another Filing Receipt incorporating the requested corrections (if appropriate).

Applicant(s)

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Domestic Priority data as claimed by applicant

This application is a 371 of PCT/EP04/10926 09/30/2004

Foreign Applications

EUROPEAN PATENT OFFICE (EPO) 03447244.9 10/02/2003

sb 10/03/2003

If Required, Foreign Filing License Granted: 11/08/2006

The country code and number of your priority application, to be used for filing abroad under the Paris Convention, is **US10/573,951**

WCA 11/13/2006

Projected Publication Date: 02/15/2007

Non-Publication Request: No

Early Publication Request: No

**** SMALL ENTITY ****

Title

Method and device for size-separating particles present in a fluid

Preliminary Class

210

PROTECTING YOUR INVENTION OUTSIDE THE UNITED STATES

Since the rights granted by a U.S. patent extend only throughout the territory of the United States and have no effect in a foreign country, an inventor who wishes patent protection in another country must apply for a patent in a specific country or in regional patent offices. Applicants may wish to consider the filing of an international application under the Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT). An international (PCT) application generally has the same effect as a regular national patent application in each PCT-member country. The PCT process **simplifies** the filing of patent applications on the same invention in member countries, but **does not result** in a grant of "an international patent" and does not eliminate the need of applicants to file additional documents and fees in countries where patent protection is desired.

Almost every country has its own patent law, and a person desiring a patent in a particular country must make an application for patent in that country in accordance with its particular laws. Since the laws of many countries differ in various respects from the patent law of the United States, applicants are advised to seek guidance from specific foreign countries to ensure that patent rights are not lost prematurely.

Applicants also are advised that in the case of inventions made in the United States, the Director of the USPTO must issue a license before applicants can apply for a patent in a foreign country. The filing of a U.S. patent application serves as a request for a foreign filing license. The application's filing receipt contains further information and guidance as to the status of applicant's license for foreign filing.

Applicants may wish to consult the USPTO booklet, "General Information Concerning Patents" (specifically, the section entitled "Treaties and Foreign Patents") for more information on timeframes and deadlines for filing foreign patent applications. The guide is available either by contacting the USPTO Contact Center at 800-786-9199, or it can be viewed on the USPTO website at <http://www.uspto.gov/web/offices/pac/doc/general/index.html>.

For information on preventing theft of your intellectual property (patents, trademarks and copyrights), you may wish to consult the U.S. Government website, <http://www.stopfakes.gov>. Part of a Department of Commerce initiative, this website includes self-help "toolkits" giving innovators guidance on how to protect intellectual property in specific countries such as China, Korea and Mexico. For questions regarding patent enforcement issues, applicants may call the U.S. Government hotline at 1-866-999-HALT (1-866-999-4158).

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Title 35, United States Code, Section 184
Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, 5.11 & 5.15**

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Organization
International Bureau



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21 April 2005 (21.04.2005)

PCT

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03447244.9 3 October 2003 (03.10.2003) EP

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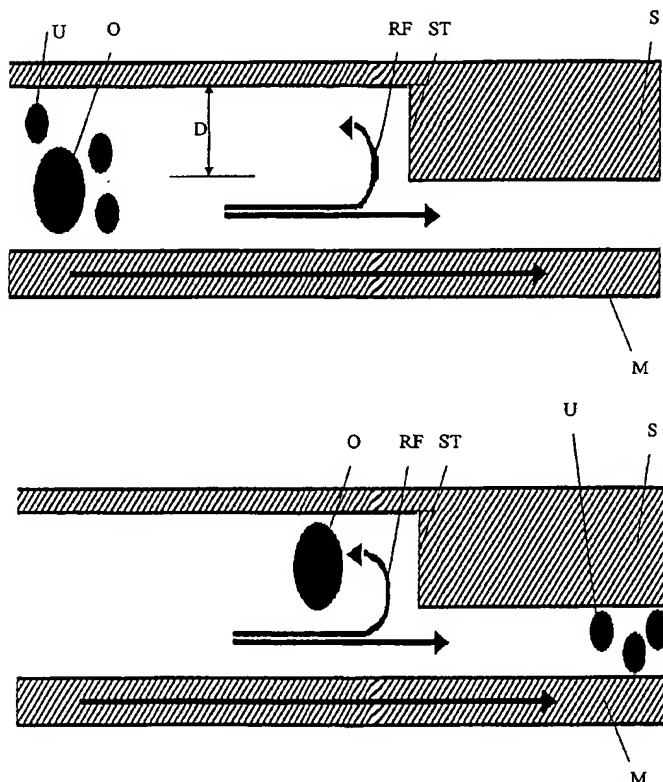
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(81) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every
kind of national protection available): AE, AG, AL, AM,
AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN,

[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: METHOD AND DEVICE FOR SIZE-SEPARATING PARTICLES PRESENT IN A FLUID



(57) Abstract: The present invention relates to a method and device for separating particles in a fluid according to size comprising generating at least one recirculating flow by a) transporting a fluid containing said particles across a profiled surface carrying at least two adjacent regions of different depth which form a surface level step, wherein - the fluid is transported by mechanically moving a flat first surface over the profiled surface, - the adjacent regions of different depth are arranged such that the depth of the regions decreases in the net direction of a forward displacement of the first surface, - a normal load is applied to at least one surface, and b) allowing the separation of said particles by at least one recirculating flow generated by moving said first surface past said profiled surface.

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY

(Chapter II of the Patent Cooperation Treaty)

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

Applicant's or agent's file reference VUB-013-PCT	FOR FURTHER ACTION		See Form PCT/PEA/416
International application No. PCT/EP2004/010926	International filing date (day/month/year) 30.09.2004	Priority date (day/month/year) 03.10.2003	
International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC G01N15/02			
Applicant VRIJE UNIVERSITEIT BRUSSEL et al.			
1. This report is the international preliminary examination report, established by this International Preliminary Examining Authority under Article 35 and transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36. 2. This REPORT consists of a total of 6 sheets, including this cover sheet. 3. This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, comprising: a. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> sent to the applicant and to the International Bureau) a total of 4 sheets, as follows: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis of this report and/or sheets containing rectifications authorized by this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions). <input type="checkbox"/> sheets which supersede earlier sheets, but which this Authority considers contain an amendment that goes beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed, as indicated in item 4 of Box No. I and the Supplemental Box. b. <input type="checkbox"/> (sent to the International Bureau only) a total of (indicate type and number of electronic carrier(s)) , containing a sequence listing and/or tables related thereto, in computer readable form only, as indicated in the Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing (see Section 802 of the Administrative Instructions).			
4. This report contains indications relating to the following items: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Box No. I Basis of the opinion <input type="checkbox"/> Box No. II Priority <input type="checkbox"/> Box No. III Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability <input type="checkbox"/> Box No. IV Lack of unity of invention <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Box No. V Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement <input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VI Certain documents cited <input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VII Certain defects in the international application <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Box No. VIII Certain observations on the international application			
Date of submission of the demand 20.07.2005		Date of completion of this report 23.08.2005	
Name and mailing address of the international preliminary examining authority: <div style="display: flex; align-items: center;"> <div> European Patent Office D-80298 Munich Tel. +49 89 2399 - 0 Tx: 523656 epmu d Fax: +49 89 2399 - 4465 </div> </div>		Authorized Officer Bravin, M Telephone No. +49 89 2399-2417	

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Desmet, et al.
Int'l Appl. No. : PCT/EP2004/010926
Int'l filing date : September 30, 2004
For : METHOD AND DEVICE FOR
SIZE-SEPARATING PARTICLES
PRESENT IN A FLUID
Examiner : unknown
Group Art Unit : unknown

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Mail Stop Amendment

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Preliminary to examination on the merits, please amend the above-captioned U.S. application as follows.

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 3 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 8 of this paper.

Int'l Appl. No. : PCT/EP2004/010926
Int'l filing date : September 30, 2004

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

On page 1 of the Specification, after the Title of the Invention and before the Field of the Invention statement starting on line 1, please insert the following section:

RELATED APPLICATIONS

This application is the U.S. National Phase under 35 U.S.C. § 371 of International Application PCT/EP2004/010926, filed September 30, 2004 which claims priority to EP 03447244.9, filed October 3, 2003.

On page 15 before Claim 1, please amend as follows:

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS: ~~Claims~~